



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Prices were unchanged in New York. Elsewhere, weekly prices were higher on mediums and generally unchanged for the larger sizes. The market tone was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was light to fairly good. Supplies were adequate to closely balanced for trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were usually sufficient for the light demand. Light type hens were about adequate to sufficient for the moderate demand.



PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL** Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were unchanged with regional pricing higher for mediums and unchanged on the balance. Trade sentiment was fully steady. Retail demand was moderate to good and steadily improving while loose egg sales were reported as mostly moderate. Producers are holding with confidence as buyers reach out prior to additional price increases and attempt to build comfortable inventories. Supplies adequate for current needs. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate with demand generally quiet. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to instances fully steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	87-96	91-93	LARGE	70-77	72
LARGE	87-95	89-92	MEDIUM	57-61	59
MEDIUM	74-80	76-79	SMALL	36-38	

MIDWEST AREA: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL** Prices were trending slightly higher on mediums and unchanged on the balance of sizes when compared to last week's prices. Trade sentiment was mostly steady to fully steady. Demand was light to fairly good. Supplies ranged adequate to close for current trade requirements. Breaking stock supplies were usually sufficient for less than normal to normal breaking schedules. Light type hens were about adequate to adequate for the at least moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	95-109	95-101
LARGE	90-104	97-99
MEDIUM	80-89	81-83

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, eastern NJ, eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL** Prices were unchanged for the larger sizes and slightly higher for mediums. The trade sentiment was fully steady. Retail demand was moderate to good. Food service movement was mostly moderate to at times fairly good. Supplies were adequate to close as sellers begin to hold product with increasing confidence. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate although held with confidence. Demand was generally quiet as breakers assess current schedules. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to instances fully steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	94.5-103	96-99
LARGE	93.5-102	95-98
MEDIUM	79.5-88	81-84

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL** Mostly prices were higher on mediums and unchanged on the larger sizes when compared to previous week's values. The market tone was steady to fully steady. Retail and distributive demand was moderate to good. Supplies were sufficient to close for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were about adequate to sufficient for the fair demand. Spent hen offerings were about sufficient to adequate for the moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	95.5-103	97-100
LARGE	94-101	95-98
MEDIUM	79.5-87	80-84

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**NEW YORK** Prices were unchanged on all sizes entering the week. Trade sentiment was steady to instances fully steady. Demand was mostly moderate. Supplies were adequate to close for current needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	104-108
LARGE	102-106
MEDIUM	88-92

**CHICAGO & MIDWEST EGGS** Prices for larger sizes unchanged, lighter weights slightly higher. The market tone was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was moderate, instances good. Food service movement was moderate. Supplies were adequate to close and held with confidence.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	93-101	95-97
LARGE	92-100	93-96
MEDIUM	79-88	82-84

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

**WESTERN** Prices unchanged on jumbo, extra large, and large, unchanged to 3 cents higher on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 1% lower than last week with California unchanged and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 4%. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings adequate but held confidently.

### CALIFORNIA

Prices unchanged. The California inventory was unchanged from last week. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings held confidently. Small benchmark price 95. Ads in Northern California: major-jumbo dozen 219, large dozen and 18 pack 2 for \$5.

CALIFORNIA: California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	141
EXTRA LARGE	136
LARGE	127
MEDIUM	115

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	299-399	JUMBO	309-389
EXTRA LARGE	289-359	EXTRA LARGE	219-379
LARGE	239-339	LARGE	269-359
MEDIUM	199-279	MEDIUM	229-299

**NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT** Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending February 27, 2004 will decrease by 3 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending February 20, 2004 were 275,855 cases which was 10 percent above the prior week and 12 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	234,898	40,957	275,855

% change from the prior week.....

+12 +1 +10

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis.

Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

**CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK** All prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate although held with confidence. Demand was generally quiet as breakers assess current schedules. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to instances fully steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	76-78	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	63-69	63-65
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

**SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN** Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate. Offerings were generally adequate. Processing schedules normal to instances heavy. Supplies of finished product were well cleared. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)\*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 23-FEB-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-9.5 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9	8.76
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Negotiations were generally unchanged compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent heavy hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)\*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 23-FEB-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	5.5-11.75 CENTS/LB.	8.5-9.25	8.86

\*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

# WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-FEB 23, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/  
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		Northeast	No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	Pacific	5-Area
Jumbo	Curr Wk	8.5	16.3	8.3	14.2	12.5	59.8
	Change	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-9.2	1.8	-12%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	25.3	45.3	12.2	19.7	35.8	138.3
	Change	1.9	1.8	-0.3	-2.5	-3.3	-2%
Large	Curr Wk	42.8	120.5	65.0	104.2	115.6	448.1
	Change	0.8	13.3	0.8	-7.9	1.8	2%
Medium	Curr Wk	15.6	34.9	13.6	17.1	26.3	107.5
	Change	1.0	1.7	0.3	-4.5	-3.5	-5%
Small	Curr Wk	4.6	4.5	1.4	5.0	2.3	17.8
	Change	1.5	1.2	-4.4	-1.6	0.1	-15%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.6	22.3	11.9	14.6	6.8	60.2
	Change	0.1	2.9	-0.4	1.2	2.0	11%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	14.1	41.7	12.5	27.7	37.3	133.3
	Change	-4.9	1.1	-5.7	9.5	-2.1	-2%
Total	Curr Wk	115.5	285.5	124.9	202.5	236.6	965.0
Percent	Change	0%	8%	-7%	-7%	-1%	-1%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	965.0	-1%	169
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	248.1	2%	35
Total Shell Egg	1213.1	0%	204

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 169 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

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**CANADIAN EGGS** MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 09, 2004

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	193	190	181	116.2

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING FEBRUARY 09, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	149	149	139	77

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES**— DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 23, 2004

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS							
12.25								7.25								19.50							
		SE		NE		MW		LOADS				SC		NW		SW		LOADS					
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST									
GNR W 1	—	—	74.50	76.00	—	—	2.00	GL W J	95.00	—	—	—	—	—	100.00	.25							
GNR BR 1	—	—	86.00	—	—	92.00	1.00	GL W XL	91.00	—	—	—	—	—	96.00	.50							
GL W XL	—	—	88.00	89.50	85.00	—	3.50	GL W LG	89.00	93.00	—	—	—	—	94.40	3.50							
GL W LG	—	—	—	87.00	84.50	—	7.00																
GL W MD	—	—	—	76.00	72.00	—	2.75																
GL W SM	—	—	49.00	50.00	—	—	.25																
NRBS - 50	—	—	79.00	80.00	—	—	1.25																
NRBS - 48	—	—	77.00	78.00	—	—	.50																

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES**— WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 02/16/04-02/20/04

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS							
64.75								53.00								117.75							
SE		NE		MW				SC		NW		SW											
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS								
GNR W 1	74.00	82.00	74.10	75.67	77.00	79.75	10.00	GNR BR 1	—	93.00	—	—	—	—	3.00								
GNR W 2	—	71.00	66.00	—	—	—	1.00	GL W J	95.00	—	—	—	—	100.00	1.25								
GNR BR 1	—	—	86.00	—	—	92.00	5.00	GL W XL	85.50	86.00	—	—	—	96.89	8.00								
GL W J	—	99.00	91.00	92.00	—	—	2.00	GL W LG	86.00	91.00	86.00	—	—	92.78	12.00								
GL W XL	—	87.67	87.25	88.63	84.35	84.00	47.50	GL W MD	67.00	73.00	—	83.00	—	78.50	8.00								
GL W LG	—	87.00	85.00	86.67	83.33	84.00	26.75	NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00								
GL W MD	72.00	—	70.43	72.48	70.25	67.33	26.75																
GL W SM	—	—	50.91	52.36	—	—	2.75																
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	112.00	.75																
NRBS - 50	—	—	79.00	80.00	—	—	1.25																
NRBS - 48	—	—	77.00	78.00	—	78.11	9.50																
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	47.75	49.00	1.00																

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS** (In Thousands)

ON HAND	02/16/04	02/09/04	02/17/03
PACIFIC COAST	270	112	629
LOS ANGELES	198	39	589

**HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS**

UNAVAILABLE

**NORTH CAROLINA EGGS** The market is higher on medium, and steady on the balance. The supply is adequate. Retail demand is moderate. PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	113.63
LARGE	111.63
MEDIUM	96.74
SMALL	73.00

**CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS**

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	210 – 250	222 – 240
1/2 doz.	123 – 151	125 – 134
Large doz.	200 – 260	217 – 225
1/2 doz.	120 – 142	128 – 132

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.****POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Branch Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby
	Fax	(213)534-1333	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	

**OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION**

Report Date: 02/19/2004

Report Period: 02/08/2004 - 02/14/2004

State	Number Cases Shipped to Northern California	Number Cases Shipped to Central California	Number Cases shipped to Southern California	Total State
Arizona	0	0	4,228	4,228
Colorado	0	0	3,322	3,322
Iowa	5,490	7,175	27,851	40,516
Michigan	0	0	1,800	1,800
Minnesota	3,530	1,560	10,069	15,159
Missouri	0	0	2,558	2,558
New Hampshire	0	0	830	830
North Carolina	588	540	765	1,893
Ohio	0	0	864	864
Oregon	3,753	130	0	3,883
South Dakota	1,266	0	0	1,266
Texas	780	0	1,560	2,340
Utah	0	0	10,676	10,676
Washington	0	180	960	1,140
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,407</b>	<b>9,585</b>	<b>65,483</b>	<b>90,475</b>
<b>SHIPPED TO MILITARY</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>SHIPPED TO NONMILITARY</b>	<b>15,407</b>	<b>9,585</b>	<b>65,483</b>	<b>90,475</b>

**CHICKEN AND EGG****January Egg Production Down Slightly**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.38 billion during January 2004, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.32 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 996 million were broiler-type and 60.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during January 2004 averaged 338 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. January egg production per 100 layers was 2,184 eggs, up 1 percent from January 2003.